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BOOK DEPARTMENT

NOTES

KAISER, JOHN BOYNTON. *Law, Legislative and Municipal Reference Libraries*. Pp. xxi, 467. Price \$4. Boston: The Boston Book Company, 1914.

The general reader will not appreciate this book but to those whose work falls within its field it will be highly valuable. It is a manual and bibliographical guide to the materials and methods of three types of special libraries. The discussions of the problems involved in making the collections of the greatest use are clear and practical. The arrangement of subject matter in the book is excellent. The sample bibliographies are highly suggestive though the library worker will often wish that the limitations of space had not prevented their being made more exhaustive.

KEILER, H. *American Shipping*. Pp. xx, 144. Price, 6 M. Jena: Verlag von Gustav Fischer, 1913.

This volume by Dr. Keiler of the University of Kiel, Germany, contains a concisely written history of American shipping which, now that for the first time since the Civil War there are signs of future progress, is of timely historical and statistical importance. It divides American shipping in the foreign trade into the usual historical periods which have repeatedly been recognized by previous writers on American trade and shipping: (1) the colonial period, (2) the period of Confederation, (3) shipping under protection (4) shipping under reciprocity and (5) the period 1860-1912.

Most of the information is obtained from secondary works, particularly those by W. L. Marvin, E. R. Johnson, W. W. Bates, J. R. Smith, J. R. Spears and J. R. Soley. It, however, contains additional data collected from public documents and various American ship owners and dockyard managers, all of which are systematically arranged and clearly presented. In addition to the detailed history of American shipping engaged in the foreign trade it contains briefer accounts of the American coasting trade and the present shipping policy of the United States. Although issued in Germany, Dr. Keiler's book is published in English so as to make it more readily available to American readers.

MAROT, HELEN. *American Labor Unions*. Pp. ix, 275. Price, \$1.25. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1914.

In the face of many discouragements, the author sets out, as she states, "to give the labor union viewpoint of labor union policies and methods which characterize the labor organizations of national reputation." Writing as a member of the American Federation of Labor, Miss Marot is in a position to state with some fairness the attitude of the American labor union.

The subject matter of the book is inclusive. The author begins with a discussion of labor unions and philanthropy, and devotes her final chapter to direct action. The eighteen intervening chapters are occupied first with discussions of specific organizations—the American Federation of Labor, the railroad brotherhoods, the Industrial Workers of the World, and the Women's Trade Union League. The following chapters are devoted to specific labor problems: The strike in its various phases, the union label, boycott, arbitration, limitation of output, and the like. The author also presents a chapter on scientific management, and one on labor in politics.

The book is written in a sympathetic rather than a critical spirit, and the reader has a vague feeling that, all things being considered, the book might have been made more authoritative in tone. Lacking a peculiar popular appeal, an effort should have been made to give a more scientific aspect to the work. A brief book on so large a subject may be scholarly or unscholarly, but it must be cogent and forceful. The author has sacrificed scholarship to brevity without gaining either cogency or force.

RUBINOW, I. M. *Was Marx Wrong?* Pp. 62. Price, 30 cents. New York: *The New York Call*, 444 Pearl St., 1914.

A searching pro-socialistic analysis of facts and figures which appeared in Simkhovitch's *Marxism vs. Socialism*. The similarity between Simkhovitch and Bernstein in plan and content is emphasized.

THOMPSON, SLASON, (Ed.) *The Railway Library, 1913*. Pp. 469. Price, 50 cents. Chicago: Bureau of Railway News and Statistics, 1914.

The fifth annual issue of the *Railway Library*, like the preceding issues, contains a compilation of articles on the subject of railway transportation and a concluding chapter presenting a mass of statistical information concerning American and foreign railways. The articles compiled this year consist in the main of notable addresses and papers prepared during 1913 by men who have come to represent the best thought of the country in the discussion of railway problems. The statistical chapter contains the most up-to-date information available in regard to railways, presented in the form of tables, interspersed with explanatory paragraphs. Mr. Thompson also devotes the text in a large measure to the presentation of arguments for an increase of freight rates on American railroads, and to criticisms of the present methods of railroad regulation.

REVIEWS

ASHLEY, WILLIAM J. *The Economic Organisation of England*. Pp. viii, 213. Price, 90 cents. New York: Longmans, Green and Company, 1914.

A series of eight lectures delivered in the Colonial Institute of Hamburg in 1912 makes up the contents of this volume. In these lectures Professor Ashley gives a concise and interesting history of the economic organization of England since the thirteenth century; showing the development of the agrarian system from the manor to the modern farm; describing the rise of foreign